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Opening arguments in Stenson retrial to begin

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PORT ORCHARD, Wash. (AP) — Opening arguments in the retrial of a Washington man whose murder conviction and death sentence were overturned begin Monday in Kitsap County.

Prosecutors aren't seeking the death penalty in the retrial of **Darold Stenson**, who has been charged with two counts of aggravated murder in connection with the slaying of his wife, Denise, and a business partner, **Frank Hoerner**, at the Stensons' exotic bird farm. The trial was moved from Clallam County, where the crime occurred.

Last May, the state Supreme Court reversed his 1994 convictions, citing the withholding of evidence from the defense by prosecutors. The high court said that the state "wrongfully suppressed" photographs that raised questions about mishandling of evidence, as well as an FBI file that wasn't provided to the defense until 2009, years after Stenson was convicted.

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